



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

de Almeida

Atty. Ref.: 2764-38

Serial No. 08/859,353

Group: 2753

Filed: May 20, 1997

Examiner: K. Lee

For: SEAT FOR GATE VALVE

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

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**EXCLUSIVE SUBSTITUTE POWER OF ATTORNEY
AND EXCLUSIVE PROSECUTION HEREAFTER BY
ASSIGNEE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.36, 3.71 AND 3.73**

Petroleo Brasileiro S.A. - Petrobras, being the owner of all right, title and interest in the above-identified patent application, hereby revokes all previous powers of attorney in this case, if any, and hereby appoints Nixon & Vanderhye, P.C., 1100 North Glebe Rd., 8th Floor, Arlington, Virginia 22201-4714, telephone number (703) 816-4000, facsimile number (703) 816-4100, and the following attorneys thereof (of the same address) individually and collectively its attorneys to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office in connection therewith, and with the resulting patent: Larry S. Nixon, 25640; Arthur R. Crawford, 25327; James T. Hosmer, 30184; Robert W. Faris, 31352; Richard G. Besha, 22770; Mark E. Nusbaum, 32348; Michael J. Keenan, 32106; Bryan H. Davidson, 30251; Stanley C. Spooner, 27393; Leonard C. Mitchard, 29009; Duane M. Byers, 33363; Jeffry H. Nelson, 30481; John R. Lastova, 33149; H. Warren Burnam, Jr. 29366; Mary J. Wilson, 32955; J. Scott Davidson, 33489; Alan M. Kagen, 36178;

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Robert A. Molan, 29834; B. J. Sadoff, 36663; James D. Berquist, 34776; Updeep S. Gill, 37334; Michael J. Shea, 34725; Donald L. Jackson, 41090; Michelle N. Lester, 32331; Frank P. Presta, 19828; Joseph S. Presta, 35329; Joseph A. Rhoa, 37515; Raymond Y. Mah, 41426; Chris Comuntzis, 31097.

Petróleo Brasileiro S.A. - Petrobras also authorizes Nixon & Vanderhye to delete any attorney names/numbers no longer with the firm and to act and rely solely on instructions communicated from the person, attorney, firm or other organization sending instructions to Nixon & Vanderhye on behalf of the owner.

Certificate Under 37 -C.F.R. §3.73(b)

Petróleo Brasileiro S.A. - Petrobras, a corporation having a place of business at Avenida República do Chile, No. 65, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, states that it is the assignee of the entire right, title and interest in the patent application identified above by virtue of an assignment from the inventors to the aforesaid assignee, recorded at the United States Patent Office on January 26, 1994 at reel 6860, frame 0488.

The undersigned (whose title is typed below) is empowered to sign this statement on behalf of Petróleo Brasileiro S.A. - Petrobras.

Rio de Janeiro ^{27th} April, 2001
Date

Petróleo Brasileiro S.A. - Petrobras

By:



Name: Antônio Cláudio C.M. Sant'Anna

Title: Intellectual Property Manager

Research & Development Center

Petróleo Brasileiro S.A.-PETROBRAS